



PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: HIRA1140

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mukouyama et al. Art Unit: 1651
Application No.: 09/408,142 Examiner: I. Marx
Filed: September 29, 1999 Confirmation No.: 3645
Title: METHODS FOR PRODUCING L-ASPARTIC ACID

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

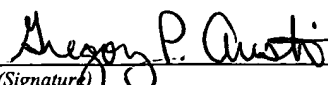
Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 17, 2004 and further in response to the Advisory Action mailed May 12, 2004, Applicants respectfully request entry of amendments to application and claims as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page two of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page three of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page five of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8	
I hereby certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on this date, June 7, 2004 , in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
<u>Gregory P. Austin</u> (Name of Person Mailing Paper)	
 (Signature)	June 7, 2004 (Date)